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RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1536
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2237
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 1171
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 2588
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 2890
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RHEFAAA/DIA WASHDC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC 1726
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC 1581
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SUBJECT: KAZAKHSTAN: SUBSTANCE BEFORE SUMMIT

11. (U) Sensitive but unclassified. Not for public Internet.

12. (SBU) SUMMARY: During a November 16 dinner, representatives from the Embassies of Italy, Spain, the UK, and the Netherlands reasserted that their governments' insistence on substance before they commit to a 2010 OSCE Summit. Several participants noted the Foreign Ministry's emphasis on its willingness to hold the Summit outside of Kazakhstan. END SUMMARY.

13. (SBU) At a dinner in honor of McKenzie Smith, Deputy Director of the Russia, South Caucasus, and Central Asia Directorate in the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, representatives from the European Union, United Nations, and the Embassies of Italy, Spain, the UK, and Netherlands discussed Kazakhstan's proposal to host a summit during its 2010 Chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Recently returned from accompanying President Nazarbayev to Italy, Italian Ambassador Bruno Antonio Pasquino clarified that his government has agreed only in principle to a summit. The Italian President and Prime Minister told President Nazarbayev that they need an agenda before fully committing. Both UK Charge Mike Welch and Smith concurred that the Kazakhstani government must determine the event's substance first. They reported that the Foreign Ministry conveyed its willingness to consider any topics that the UK wishes to propose.

14. (SBU) Dutch Ambassador Frans Potuyt and Spanish DCM Beltran de Agueda also reported their respective governments' conditional support, which depends upon the summit's substance. Most representatives cited European security as the most likely summit topic even though they believe that the Corfu process will not conclude before the end of 2010. At the same time, they concurred with Pol/Econ Chief when she raised U.S. concerns that this topic could disrupt progress on the Corfu process.

15. (SBU) The Dutch Ambassador also pointed out, which the UK Charge confirmed, Kazakhstan's willingness to hold the summit outside its territory. They highlighted Helsinki and Vienna as possible venues. The Dutch Ambassador asserted that the government of Finland has welcomed the proposed summit. Meanwhile, the UK's Deputy Director said the OSCE Secretariat would probably prefer to hold the summit in Vienna. The Dutch Ambassador reminded guests that the government of Kazakhstan had approached The Hague about hosting its proposed high-level meeting on tolerance. He appeared relieved that the government of Kazakhstan now prefers to have this event in Astana at

the Palace of Peace and Harmony (aka, the Pyramid). When the topic of the April 2010 Global Nuclear Security Summit arose, UN Resident Coordinator Haoliang Xu expressed skepticism that the international community could manage so many meetings in one year.

SPRATLEN